The Quid Novi

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MONTREAL, QC MCGILL UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF LAW - FACULTÉ DE DROIT DE L'UNIVERSITÉ MCGILL 12 SEPT 2023

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

An Exciting Year Ahead for the Quid

Anna McAllister, Pablo Mhanna-Sandoval | 3L, 2L

As co-editors of McGill Law's newspaper of record, we are overjoyed to welcome you back to another year at the Quid Novi. What a year it will be. 1Ls will have to take our word for it: last year was a good time. Many McGill Law institutions–the Quid included–were getting back on firm footing after the pandemic. Staples like Coffeehouse, the famed Skit Nite, and a paper format Quid Novi all returned in style.

This year brings with it new horizons and opportunities for the Quid and its contributors. The Quid Novi's mandate is to provide a positive outlet for student journalism through which McGill Law discusses, documents, and comes to understand itself.

This year, the Quid will continue to fulfill this role in a big way with the launch of Quid Novi News (QNN). QNN will be a short-form video podcast designed to inform McGill Law about upcoming events, document life at the Faculty, and highlight extraordinary members of our community. This new project will primarily be available through Instagram and YouTube, bringing the Quid Novi firmly into the 2020s–and only three years late.

The Quid Novi is McGill Law. It is you. It is us. So, while we are grateful for your continued readership of this publication, do not hesitate to jump into the fray at least once. Please send us your pictures, poems, political commentary, jokes, and insights about learning and living the law. It is up to us to document McGill Law lore for future generations to admire.

We look forward to reading your submissions!

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MEET THE QUID

Eiditor in Chief Edition

Anna McAllister, Pablo Mhanna-Sandoval | 3L, 2L

Hello! My name is Anna McAllister and I have the pleasure of being one of your co-EICs this year. I started working with the Quid as a columnist in 1L where I would write articles called "Blasts from the Past". In these articles, I dove into the Quid archives to connect McGill Law's past to its present. Mid-way through 1L, I became an EIC and have never looked back! The Quid is my passion project and I am electrified to see what kind of mischief we will get up to this year. On a personal note, I love hosting dinner parties, drinking wine outdoors with friends (shoutout J, G, JD, C, E), writing love letters (to friends and family), and calling my loved ones on the phone. I am also a TL for the ***incredible*** Integration Group 13, a GA for Professor Dedek's Contracts class, and a member of the Student Advocacy Senior Team, so you will definitely see me around this year - don't hesitate to say hi!

P.S. I am a massive Swiftie, and if you don't submit enough articles, you will have to deal with my Taylor Swift filler content!

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I'm Pablo Mhanna-Sandoval and I'm honoured to be co-EIC of the Quid Novi for 2023-24. My time with the Quid began as a 1L columnist in 2022-23. I got to know the kind Quid community and learned how impactful this organization is to community life at McGill Law.

On the personal side, I am a fan of good food, drink, and company. I love movies, reading, and writing. More recently, I've begun trying my hand at filmmaking. Much of this will have to be set aside for the next few weeks, however, as I have just adopted a kitten; I intend to be an exemplary cat dad.

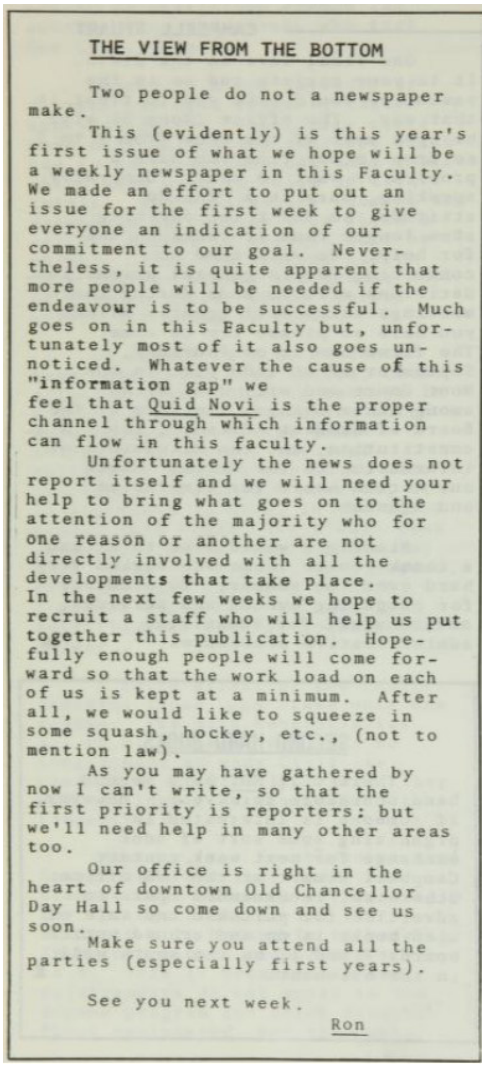
Don't hesitate to say hello around campus if you see me, whether it's to talk movies, TV, politics, or really just to say hello.

BLAST FROM THE PAST

The First Letter from the Editor

The first edition of the Quid Novi was published in March 1980. At that time, it seemed to serve mostly as an information bulletin that detailed activities going on in the Faculty. While it had some cursory commentary on Faculty life and news, it was relatively limited.

In September 1981 however, the Quid as we know it today was born! Editors Ron Lucciola and Peter Dauphinee seemingly single-handedly prepared the first edition of Volume II in order to convey to the Faculty their hopes for what the Quid would become. Filled with both the serious (commentary on curriculum changes), and the unserious (sarcastic commentary on the "improvements" made to the cafeteria), this Quid is very much like the ones we hope to bring you this year. Please enjoy the first letter from the editor. As Ron pointed out in 1981, it takes more than two people to make a newspaper, so please, do not hesitate to submit to us at quid.law@mcgill.ca!



THE VIEW FROM THE BOTTOM

Two people do not a newspaper make.

This (evidently) is this year's first issue of what we hope will be a weekly newspaper in this Faculty. We made an effort to put out an issue for the first week to give everyone an indication of our commitment to our goal. Nevertheless, it is quite apparent that more people will be needed if the endeavour is to be successful. Much goes on in this Faculty but, unfortunately most of it also goes unnoticed. Whatever the cause of this "information gap" we feel that Quid Novi is the proper channel through which information can flow in this faculty.

Unfortunately the news does not report itself and we will need your help to bring what goes on to the attention of the majority who for one reason or another are not directly involved with all the developments that take place. In the next few weeks we hope to recruit a staff who will help us put together this publication. Hopefully enough people will come forward so that the work load on each of us is kept at a minimum. After all, we would like to squeeze in some squash, hockey, etc., (not to mention law).

As you may have gathered by now I can't write, so that the first priority is reporters: but we'll need help in many other areas too.

Our office is right in the heart of downtown Old Chancellor Day Hall so come down and see us soon.

Make sure you attend all the parties (especially first years).

See you next week.

Ron

WELCOME! BIENVENUE!

Justine Blanchette-Sirois,
au nom de l'AÉD 2023-2024

Dear readers,

Welcome, and welcome back! We are so happy to have been seeing you in the halls, in classes, and at our office in the past weeks (which is, by the way, located in the basement of OCDH). The LSA has been hard at work all summer, since transitioning into our roles in May. The first Quid edition of the year presented itself as the perfect opportunity to give both new and returning students an overview of the work done at the LSA and help direct your inquiries. To help you all navigate our 10 roles, here is the TLDR (you can find more complete descriptions in our Constitution):

President (president.lsa@mail.mcgill.ca) – ***Justine Blanchette-Sirois***: I ensure the leadership of the LSA and take care of administrative matters alongside Xin, as well as help facilitate any advocacy undertaken by another member of the team.

VP Internal (vp-internal.lsa@mail.mcgill.ca) – ***Xin Hao Yang***: Xin oversees all matters proper to the LSA, like taking the minutes of our meetings, overseeing the selection of committee members, and locker distribution. Xin makes sure our LSA gears run smoothly.

VP Academic (vp-academic.lsa@mail.mcgill.ca) – ***Khaled Hassoun***: Khaled is responsible for all academic advocacy on the students' behalf. He meets regularly with the Associate-Dean Academic to discuss live academic issues and ensure that students are properly served by McGill Law's services.

VP External (vp-external.lsa@mail.mcgill.ca) – ***Jacob Shannon***: Jacob ensures our relations with other external organizations which relate to the LSA, such as SSMU, the FEDQ, and other partners. He spearheads advocacy within these external bodies and represents LSA student interests with current and potential partners.

VP Communications (vp-communications.lsa@mail.mcgill.ca) – ***Stephanie Kay*** : Stephanie is responsible for all LSA communications across our platforms, on our social media and in the Brief. For any important information, you can also turn to our website, which she manages.

VP Special Events (vp-specialevents.lsa@mail.mcgill.ca) – ***Pénélope Labbé***: Pénélope manages all big events that you will attend this year. Just coming off from Frosh last week, she is working on other events such as Medical Malpractice, Grad Gala, and some other surprises throughout the year. Stay alert and always purchase tickets quickly! You never know when they will run out…

VP Ongoing Events (vp-ongoingevents.lsa@mail.mcgill.ca) – ***Matthew Boulden***: Matthew oversees all Coffeehouses and Moka Mondays at the Faculty. With bi-weekly "coffee"-related events, you'll be sure to have plenty of opportunities to socialize with you peers whether over a coffee or a beer.

VP Clubs (vp-clubs.lsa@mail.mcgill.ca) – ***Julius Grippo***: Julius is the manager of all club-related inquiries and requests. He oversees club events and funding requests, as well as chairs the ASEF committee alongside two other members. He works on facilitating processes for clubs and creating accessible material to facilitate club events.

VP Partnerships (vp-partnerships.lsa@mail.mcgill.ca) – ***Liam Dodge***: Liam fosters relationships with partners and sponsors to finance our events and initiatives. He is always ready to help other students find funding for their events; you can always reach out to him for help on these matters.

Interim VP Finance (vp-finance.lsa@mail.mcgill.ca) – ***Ian Anderson***: Ian manages all things money. He transitioned the LSA bank account, meets with our accountant, and divides VP budgets. For any financial inquiry, you can email him.

Avec une équipe composée d'une part de nouveaux membres qui apportent une fabuleuse énergie nouvelle (Liam, Julius, Pénélope, Xin, Jacob et Ian) d'autre part de vétérans sages de l'AÉD 2022-2023 (Khaled, Stephanie, Matthew et Justine), nous avons si hâte de vous représenter cette année à travers nos différentes initiatives et missions. Si quoi que ce soit survient avec lequel nous pouvons vous aider, vous pouvez toujours nous écrire. Nous sommes des étudiants, qui voulons être là pour les étudiants. Au plaisir de vous croisir à un Coffeehouse près de chez nous!

DON'T GET HINGED ON OCIS

Dylan Roberts | Law Student

Hinge has a prompt that reads something like, "What is your favourite quote from a book or a movie?". During my six-month, post-failed-OCIs Hinge-binge, I read many responses to that prompt. The best, by far, was that recited by the teacher-protagonist in the Dead Poet's Society, John Keating played by Robin Williams. It goes like this: "Medicine, law, business, engineering, these are noble pursuits and necessary to sustain life. But poetry, beauty, romance, love, these are what we stay alive for." Really, I hope that if you remember nothing else from this short essay, it is that.

But who are you?

Are you a 1L reading this first edition of the Quid for the first time? If so, welcome to the Faculty! You'll find there are lots of firsts here–firsts that you never signed up for when you signed up for law school. If you're like me and are coming into the Faculty without a clue about how to actually find work as a lawyer, then your first entry will probably be on-campus interviews, or OCIs. If you're wondering about OCIs, this article is for you.

What I wish I had known about OCIs is this: OCIs are just like Hinge. I learned that after not getting any offers in OCIs. I invested way too much time and energy into the dating app to compensate myself for my loss. Looking back, I see the parallels between the two.

First, Hinge and OCIs promise you love, but don't always deliver. Their advertising says it all: they use the same lingo. You'll hear words like finding the best "fit", making "partner", or how sometimes "it doesn't work out". Their processes are similar too: you'll set up your profile from select experiences with some pictures or a CV; offer a written sample of who you are in prompts or a cover letter; you'll wait to see if anyone matches and offers to meet up; you'll go on a first date or interview; then you'll either get an enthusiastic invite to another meetup, a polite rejection, and if they're not that nice or not that organized, ghosted. You may, like me, follow-up, but in my experience, that rarely pans out on either platform. So, you always dress your best, stay polite, smile and give lots of compliments; then have ChatGPT check your messages to make sure they're diplomatic, not-desperate, and without passive-aggressive undertones.

Second, Hinge and OCIs will commodify you. They will both place you side by side with other candidates. A person will review your profile behind a screen and decide whether to pass you on to the next round. If that screener chooses you, you will be in a room next to people very similar to you because a social algorithm said to everyone there "you might be a great fit". With that, you'll have also earned the privilege of having a group of people talking about whether to invest more time and money into your relationship after you've sat together in a space asking each other the same sometimes serious (but not too serious), standardized questions. If someone accepts you after that and you accept them, then you will find friendship soon enough, I'm sure. But if not, you may have the same leftover feelings as me: a sense that the investment in connections is minimal and always secondary to a need to sieve, filter, and profit.

I'll pause here to say that I'm not a cynical or pessimistic person. I pride myself on being realistic. But I was not realistic about OCIs or Hinge, in part because the only thing I knew about them was what they advertised: love and connection. Call me naïve, but these first two parallels taught me that OCIs and Hinge can feel like social circuses, especially if they don't pan out. If you feel dehumanized by the end, that is not your fault: that is by their design. To be realistic about OCIs and Hinge means recognizing and accepting that their platforms use the promise of love to ultimately make a profit.

I'm also an optimist, though, which leads me to OCIs and Hinge's third parallel: while the process is f*cked by design, it alludes to something beautiful and real. There is genuine joy in loving where you are, who you are with, and what you are doing. I can't help feel hopeful that those places, people, and purposes exist. Both OCIs and Hinge will help some people find what they are looking for. But if you're like me, and you go in without being sure what you're looking for, then these platforms can, through trial and error, help you learn what those loves are.

So yes, in law school, we learn the law. And necessary for sustaining life, the law is. But, law school can also be a time to learn about what we live for, and what that means for us. OCIs and Hinge can't promise the beautiful ideal they place front and center. But, with the right approach, they will at worst be yet another classroom, with yet another lesson to learn.

In good McGill fashion, I will leave you with this quote, from someone ChatGPT can't identify, and that undermines the foundations of this article and Western education entirely. Welcome to all, and cheers for another year!

"The most important lessons cannot be taught, but must be learned."

– Author Unknown

AI HEADSHOTS

A Journey to Finding My Headshot

Anna McAllister, | 3L

There are a few things that all law students dread; exam season, grade reveal day, formal firm recruitment, and having to open a physical copy of the Civil Code (my year got the boring white Civil Codes, don't blame me!). I would like to propose something else that all law students secretly dread, and I think it is time we collectively add it to the hate list – headshots.

While my McGill Law education has genuinely made me gain a deeper admiration for the legal profession, the headshot is one of those implicit prerequisites that I have yet to come to terms with. As law students, we are type A, we are perfectionists, and we are often more than a little self-critical. These innate characteristics often result in headshots being a loathsome enemy. Do you mean to tell me that I am supposed to capture my physical entity (which I prefer to pretend does not exist) in one photo that is intended to convey my essence to employers? As with all McGill Law students, I have a CV, transcript, and personal statement I have made peace with representing me. You're telling me that now I need a photo of my face too?

I am fully aware that this is a dramatic, irrelevant, minuscule concern, but I hope that at least some of you will be able to relate to the love-hate relationship with your physical form.

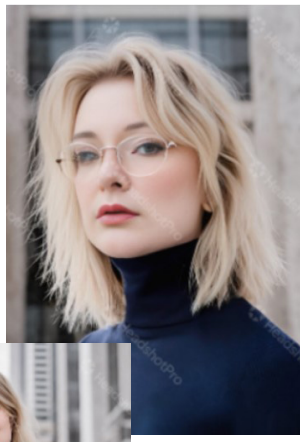
Why this tangent about headshots? Well, this summer, in an attempt to utilize the incredible advances of artificial intelligence, I was one of those people suckered into using an AI headshot generator. The website promised that I could upload a series of selfies or other random photos of myself, and the software would translate them into a professional headshot that I could use on my LinkedIn. It sounded perfect, I mean look at the gorgeous models in the advertisements:

Look at all those beautiful, realistic looking people!

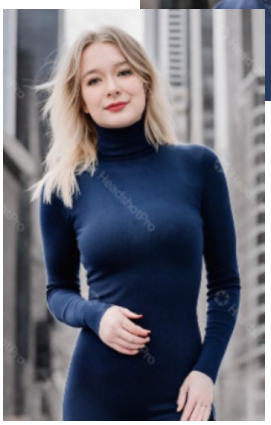
So, I did it. I sent in 20 photos of myself, paid 30$, and waited. My grandmother always used to say (as I am sure everyone's did) that if something seems too good to be true, it probably is. Well Grandma Duplessis, as usual, you were right.

Please enjoy my misery, dear Quid readers, and the outcomes of my AI headshots:

We love an extra limb moment, maybe this will show firms I can write extra quickly?



Looking like a Hunger Games tribute



Because everyone wears a turtleneck one-piece spandex suit in their headshot, right?

After the unfortunate results, I ended up back where I started: alone with my body dysmorphia and no headshots. Eventually, I plucked up the courage to do what I should have done in the first place, buy a FaceTune Pro subscription and get my little brother to take some iPhone headshots of me in my backyard.

In law school, we are constantly confronted with feeling like not enough, and this can hit closest to home when this sentiment gets wrapped up with something we can't change (like our appearance). This can be exhausting, as we try to craft a version of ourselves that is the most palatable to the job market. I'm hoping that our employers will realize that it is when we are the most ourselves that we are also at our best. We are good enough au naturel McGill Law, no AI enhancements necessary.

DIALOGUE DE SOURDS

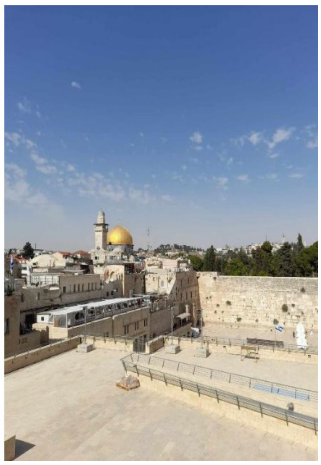
Félix Desrochers | 2L

Mise en contexte: En août dernier, j'ai pris part à la première édition du voyage Face-to-Face, organisé par Hillel Montréal, pour en apprendre plus sur le conflit israélo-palestinien.

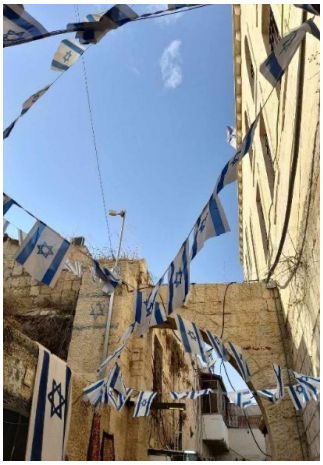
J'avais longtemps rêvé de visiter cette terre, si contestée et controversée soit-elle que même la nommer pourrait donner l'apparence d'une déclaration politique: Canaan, la Terre sainte, ou bien la Terre de Palestine ou Terre d'Israël. Bref, vous comprendrez, je parle du lieu que revendiquent actuellement deux nations concurrentes, la nation israélienne et la nation palestinienne. Pont entre l'Europe, l'Afrique et l'Asie, carrefour des religions abrahamiques, monument de l'Histoire, mais c'est tristement à cause de son historique de violence continue que cette région s'accapare aujourd'hui l'attention des masses, éprises de champions qu'elles veulent voir sadiquement triompher. Ce n'est pas anodin que ce petit territoire, de la superficie d'Hawaii, captive autant notre regard occidental et engendre autant d'activisme dans nos communautés, nos campus et nos rues : à lui seul, il bénéficie de plus d'attention médiatique que toute l'Afrique subsaharienne!

Durant mon voyage, j'ai eu la chance d'assister à de nombreuses présentations, autant par des acteurs médiatiques, politiques ou communautaires israéliens que palestiniens. En réalité, ces mini-conférences m'ont beaucoup fatigué. Il n'existe aucun point commun, d'accord ou de rencontre entre le récit « officiel » des faits chez les parties israélienne et palestinienne, à l'exception près que celui de la partie adverse est nécessairement « à côté de la plaque », insensé, ridicule ou de la propagande. L'un disait qu'Israël était la terre originelle du peuple juif et que la création d'un État indépendant en son sein permettrait de se protéger de persécutions et d'atrocités comme l'Holocauste, que le pays devait demeurer majoritairement juif pour garantir cet objectif. L'autre disait que ses ancêtres jouissaient de cette terre pendant des siècles et qu'il n'avait pas à payer les coûts d'un isolement économique et politique pour les malheurs vécus par un autre peuple dans un autre continent. Personne ne reconnaissait qu'ils avaient tous les deux en partie raison. Lassé par les conseillers politiques, les experts en communication, les leaders communautaires et les journalistes, je me suis détaché de leur obstination délétère. Plutôt, j'ai entrepris un examen visuel de la région pour retrouver une plus grande part de vérité, car les yeux reflètent une réalité vivante qu'il est plus difficile de déformer à son avantage.

Jérusalem est la ville la plus propre et la plus organisée que j'aie visitée. La circulation automobile est fluide, le tramway traverse rapidement les grandes artères. Des bâtiments de calcaire d'une couleur sable uniforme entourent la vieille ville et respectent son charme historique. La vieille ville, divisée en quatre quartiers (musulman, juif, chrétien et arménien), abrite des sites parmi les plus sacrés : le tombeau du Christ, le tombeau de David, la maison où aurait eu lieu la Cène, etc. Les marchés ouverts entre les murs accueillent Juifs, Arabes et touristes du monde entier dans un tumulte humain propre à l'Orient. Derrière cette beauté se cachent cependant de vives douleurs. Les fortifications trouées de balles rappellent la guerre des Six Jours qui a mené à la prise de la vieille ville et de Jérusalem-Est, comme les bandes de drapeaux israéliens qui couvrent l'entrée du quartier musulman. En jour de sabbat, une marée de Juifs orthodoxes prient devant le Mur des Lamentations; ils ont en tête la destruction du Second Temple et l'espoir de sa reconstruction. Simultanément, quelques mètres plus loin, le muezzin du Dôme du Rocher --troisième plus important site de l'islam qui repose là où le Second Temple se trouvait-- retentit : c'est l'appel à la prière. Sur le Mont du Temple comme en Canaan, l'épanouissement des uns fait le malheur des autres…



Mont du Temple: Mur des Lamentations et Dôme du Rocher

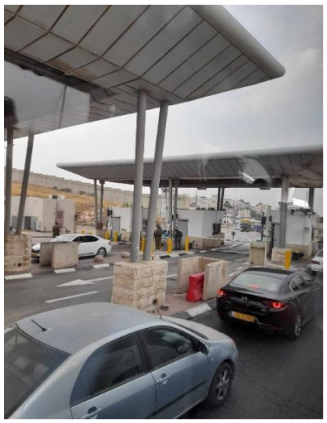


Entrée du quartier musulman de la vieille ville de Jérusalem

La Cisjordanie en est un exemple frappant. Durant la deuxième intifada, dans les années 2000, en réponse à plus d'une centaine d'attentats-suicides sur son territoire, l'État d'Israël a construit un énorme mur, de huit mètres de hauteur, séparant le territoire d'Israël de la Cisjordanie. Les fameuses œuvres de Banksy et de nombreux slogans plus originaux les uns que les autres inscrits sur la façade, comme « Make hummus not walls », appellent toujours à son démantèlement. Plus de 700 barrages militaires ont depuis été installés sur le territoire de la Cisjordanie pour contrôler la circulation palestinienne et contrer le terrorisme. Plusieurs résidents subissent des contrôles quotidiens pour avoir accès à leur milieu de travail, perdant ainsi de

nombreuses heures d'activité. Sur la route, j'aperçois plusieurs bunkers occupés de soldats israéliens, mitrailleuses prêtes à faire feu. Une centaine de mètres plus loin, deux enfants palestiniens intrépides escaladent un bunker inoccupé. Il est statistiquement prouvé que de telles mesures de sécurité ont diminué le terrorisme en Israël, mais à quel prix? La situation en Cisjordanie est assez chaotique, sans parler des riches colonies israéliennes qui, bâties en amont, encerclent stratégiquement les villes palestiniennes majeures, comme Ramallah et Hébron, freinant leur développement et bénéficiant d'une forte présence militaire. Le fort accent que l'État hébreux met sur sa sécurité peut sembler exagéré, mais il a somme toute de fortes assises historiques. Après à peine 75 ans d'existence, son intégrité a été maintes et maintes fois menacée : Guerre israélo-arabe de 1948-1949, Guerre des Six Jours (1967), Guerre du Kippour (1973), première intifada (1987-1993), deuxième intifada (2000-2005). La peur existentielle du peuple israélien est légitime lorsque l'on réalise qu'il prend moins d'une heure de voiture pour se rendre de Jérusalem à Tel Aviv. Cependant, la sécurité des uns fait la dépossession des autres…

Barrière de séparation israélienne: "Make hummus not walls"


Checkpoint

Et si les leaders israéliens et palestiniens ouvraient leurs yeux au lieu de s'aveugler mutuellement en répandant leur haine, ne parviendraient-ils pas à s'écouter?

« Quand tu entends une opinion qui te déplaît, étudie et découvre la vérité qu'elle contient. »

~ Sri Aurobindo

SO YOU WROTE A TERM PAPER....NOW WHAT?

"Beyond the Classroom, Next Steps for Your Major Legal Paper"
A Guide for McGill BCL/JD Students Made Possible Through ASEF Funding

Shona Moreau | 4L

You've done it! After countless hours spent in front of your computer screen, digging through case law, and perhaps surviving on an unhealthy amount of caffeine, you've completed your major legal paper. A key requirement of your BCL/JD program at McGill's Faculty of Law, this 8,000+-word endeavor can feel like an end in itself. However, there are meaningful ways to build upon this academic milestone. Here are some strategies to ensure your paper does more than just sit on a shelf.

1. Submit to a Law Journal: Elevate Your Research
One practical next step for your paper is to submit it to a law journal. McGill and other institutions offer various avenues for students to get their research published. Whether you focus on thematic journals or those specialized by jurisdiction, this is an excellent opportunity to get acquainted with the publication process and to share your work with a broader academic community.

2. Present at Conferences: Network and Gain Insight
Conferences provide another avenue to share your research. These events, which can range from local to international, offer a platform for scholarly exchange, networking, and feedback. Furthermore, financial resources are available for students. As an example, I had the chance to present my paper on non-conjugal partnerships, titled "I Love You...As a Friend," at the recent 18th ISFL World Conference in Antwerp, Belgium. This experience was partially funded by the very generous faculty Alumni Student Engagement Fund and the SSMU Ambassador Fund.

3. Use as a Writing Sample: Showcase Your Skills
When job hunting, a strong writing sample can set you apart from the competition. Your major paper is a substantial piece of work that reflects your ability to conduct legal research and articulate complex ideas. Employers value this kind of comprehensive example as it highlights your attention to detail and subject-matter expertise.

4. Share on Social Media: Get the Word Out
Finally, consider sharing your work on social media platforms. After obtaining the green light from your supervisor, you can use this medium to thank those who guided you and to share your paper with a wider audience. LinkedIn, for example, is an excellent platform to engage with professionals in your field, and sharing your paper there might open doors for future opportunities.

Whether you decide to aim for publication, network at conferences, or leverage your paper for professional opportunities, the key is to take that next step. Your paper is a significant accomplishment—make sure it serves you well in the academic and professional realms alike.

SITUER LE COUP D'ÉTAT AU NIGER DANS UN CONTEXTE MULTIPOLAIRE

Kamil Chaoui | 2L

Des soutiens de la junte militaire agitent les drapeaux russe et nigérien lors d'une manifestation à Niamey (Niger), le 11 août 2023 (AFP)

Beaucoup ont sûrement lu ou entendu parler d'un coup d'état au Niger ayant eu lieu le 26 juillet 2023. Mais quelles sont les implications de cette situation politique dans ce pays d'Afrique de l'Ouest ?

En juillet dernier, des militaires ont renversé le président Mohamed Bazoum et ont justifié cet acte par la « dégradation de la situation sécuritaire » sous la présidence du chef d'État[1]. Les condamnations et sanctions ne se sont pas fait attendre, en commençant par la *Communauté économique des États de l'Afrique de l'Ouest* (Cédéao), rapidement suivie par Washington et l'Union Européenne. La France, au lendemain du putsch, a gelé une aide de 120 millions d'euros annuelle au pays de 25 millions d'habitants[2].

Il est important de souligner que le Niger n'est pas un loup solitaire. Depuis 2020, le Burkina Faso, le Mali et la Guinée ont eux aussi subi des coups d'État. Le thème commun de ces prises de pouvoir est d'une part le rejet d'un interventionnisme néocolonial occidental (principalement français) en Afrique sous le couvert, selon les représentants de ce mouvement souverainiste, de l'anti-terrorisme[3]. D'autre part, les putschistes accusent souvent l'oligarchie africaine de corruption et d'une collaboration avec les anciennes puissances coloniales aux dépens d'une population appauvrie[4].

Ces dynamiques doivent être placées dans le contexte de la multipolarité qu'on observe aujourd'hui à l'échelle internationale. Contrairement à la junte maintenant au pouvoir au Niger, le président Mohamed Bazoum était un « grand allié de l'Occident »[5]. Les pays africains qui rejettent aujourd'hui l'influence occidentale dans leurs pays trouvent bien souvent la main tendue de la Russie, sous la forme d'investissements et de soutien militaire à travers le groupe Wagner[6]. Vladimir Poutine séduit les partis souverainistes Africains par un discours égalitaire et respectueux de l'identité africaine. Sa déclaration à l'occasion du sommet Russie-Afrique en juillet exprime bien sa position stratégique : "*Notre respect pour la souveraineté des États africains, leurs traditions et leurs valeurs, leur désir de déterminer de manière indépendante leur propre destin et de construire librement des relations avec leurs partenaires reste inchangé*"[7].

Ces régions africaines, de la même manière que l'Ukraine, sont ainsi le terrain d'une guerre d'influence entre l'Occident et la Russie, dont la relation avec la Chine ne fait que se solidifier. Ces zones de confrontation s'intensifiant de plus en plus depuis les dernières années, cette citation de Lénine me paraît très actuelle : « *Il y a des décennies où rien ne se passe, et il y a des semaines où des décennies se produisent* ».

[1] https://www.francetvinfo.fr/monde/afrique/niger/l-article-a-lire-pour-comprendre-la-crise-que-traverse-le-niger-apres-le-coup-d-etat-militaire_6006353.html

[2] Ibis

[3] https://www.lapresse.ca/international/afrique/2023-08-04/coup-d-etat-au-niger/les-militaires-ouest-africains-sont-prets-a-intervenir-contre-les-putschistes.php#:~:text=Rupture%20de%20la%20coop%C3%A9ration%20militaire&text=L'ex%2Dpuissance%20coloniale%20d%C3%A9ploie,de%20revenir%20sur%20ces%20accords.

[4] https://www.jeuneafrique.com/1468468/politique/coup-detat-au-niger-le-grand-gachis/

[5] https://www.bbc.com/afrique/region-66545373

[6] Ibis

[7] Ibis

JURIST

Reporters and correspondents wanted at McGill Law

McGill Law students are invited to apply for positions as volunteer reporters or correspondents with JURIST (jurist.org), the US-based **international legal news non-profit powered by law students from around the world**. JURIST is the only global collaboration of law students working together around the clock. **We report the rule of law in crisis.**

Be a **voice for Canada**, reporting on Canadian legal developments and law-related events. Gain unique **writing and research experience** as a member of our dynamic newswriting team of **over 100 public-spirited law students from 25 countries**. Get **your own byline** on a service that reaches a global audience of over 1 million readers a year. Keep up to date on the **latest legal developments** as they happen, and **share your legal training** by explaining them to others **pro bono**. **Make friends and build connections** with future lawyers from elsewhere in North America, South America, Europe, Africa, Asia and Australasia that can last a lifetime!

JURIST:

- In 2022-23 JURIST was staffed in Canada by law students from UOttawa Law and UCalgary Law, and in the US by law students at Harvard Law, Stanford Law, Pitt Law, BU Law, Vermont Law and UNLV Law. **We're expanding to more Canadian and US law schools this year!**
- JURIST has a **fast-growing network** of volunteer reporters and correspondents filing from many countries around the world, including (but not limited to) **Afghanistan, Australia, Belarus, Canada, China, India, Ireland, Kenya, Myanmar, New Zealand, the Netherlands, Pakistan, Peru, Uganda, Ukraine and the UK**.

Qualifications:

- **Journalistic experience is helpful, but not required.** New volunteers will be trained by US-based law professors and professional journalists.
- **Applicants must have 5 hours a week to volunteer**, enthusiasm for news and reporting, strong writing skills, good discipline and attention to detail and an interest in carefully explaining law-related developments to a worldwide public.

Apply:

- Visit www.jurist.org/apply
- Complete the application by **5 PM ET Friday, September 15.**
- Questions? Email JURIST Executive Editor Jaclyn Belczyk at jbelczyk@jurist.org

OVER-HEARD

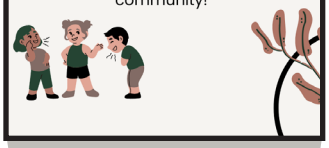
3L: I need a breakfast cigarette

2L: I was so starved for attention I bought a cat

2L to another 2L: "This Faculty is kinda full of sugar daddies tho"

What are *Overheards*?

Overheards are anonymously submitted quotes and jokes overheard by your fellow McGillians at the Faculty of Law. Send us your favourite memes of the week by Thursday at 5pm and let us share the laughter with the Quid Novi community!



MEME ROUND UP

Send us your memes!

Editorial Policy

As per our Constitution, we always share our editorial policy in the first edition of a new volume of Quid Novi. Since the Quid belongs to all Law students, it is essential to adopt a transparent editorial policy that will guarantee both freedom of expression and the protection of individual interests.

You will find below some principles that we hope will guide you when you write and review your articles. While they were developed after consultation with students and members of the LSA executive, they may not be perfect: we welcome your comments at quid.law@mcgill.ca.

Wherever possible, the Quid publishes everything submitted. However, to encourage a climate where each student will feel comfortable sharing their opinions, in rare circumstances, articles may be edited, and in extreme cases refused, at the discretion of the Editors-in-Chief.

While all submissions are presumptively publishable, potentially criminal speech (i.e. hate speech) and libelous speech are not presumptively publishable. In such cases the author must make a strong case that the information is accurate, and that journalistic standards and ethics were followed; discretion to publish such articles lies solely with the Editors-in-Chief.

QUID NOVI POLICIES AND OPERATING GUIDELINES

The Quid belongs to students enrolled in the Faculty of Law at McGill University. It is essential that it maintains transparent policies and guidelines that take into consideration values such as freedom of expression as well as interests such as those of students and faculty. The policies and operating guidelines are set forth below. Questions and comments may be directed to: quid.law@mcgill.ca. This policy is updated at the sole discretion of the Editors-in-Chief provided notice of update has been published in the Quid.

This version of the policy is enacted as of 2014.

This document has seven sections:

1) General Guidelines

2) Submission and Revocation Policy

3) Anonymous Submission Policy

4) Editing Guidelines

5) Content Review Policy

6) Overheards Review Policy

7) Notice and Amendment Process

1) GENERAL GUIDELINES

Every item appearing in the Quid Novi is an opinion piece that reflects only the views of the person (s) submitting the item. Neither the Quid Novi, the LSA, nor the Faculty of Law endorse any of the material or views contained therein. Given the nature of the publication and its limited resources, the Quid will not undertake to evaluate the factual accuracy of submissions. Submissions are presumptively publishable unless they do not conform to the guidelines contained herein.

2) SUBMISSION AND REVOCATION POLICY

The Quid is a submission-driven publication. The deadline for submission shall appear in every issue. Articles submitted must include the author's name and year of study. If the author is writing in a particular capacity (i.e. 'LSA President'; 'Head of Student Club') this is to be indicated by the author.

No material submitted after the deadline shall be published without the express consent of the Editors-in-Chief. Late submissions will be slated for publication in the subsequent edition.

Articles submitted for publication may be revoked by the author. The Quid will honour all such requests provided they are made at least two days prior to publication. The Quid will do its best to honour a late revocation request but will not stop the printing of an issue that has already gone to press.

3) ANONYMOUS SUBMISSION POLICY

The Quid will publish anonymous articles provided they conform to the Quid policy and operating guidelines. Anonymous articles present a challenge for content review for they do not allow the Editors-in-Chief to consult with the author. As such, if an anonymous article is rejected for publication, notification of rejection must be published in the Quid.

4) EDITING GUIDELINES

Every item submitted to the Quid shall be reviewed. The Quid reserves the right to make grammatical edits to improve the readability or suitability for publication of an article. Copy Editors may also correct spelling mistakes. If a submission requires significant editing - in the view of the first person reviewing the article - this shall be indicated to the Editors-in-Chief. The Editors may refuse to publish the article for lack of suitability or may conduct significant edits and publish the submission. Minor edits need not be communicated to the author prior to publication.

5) CONTENT REVIEW POLICY

All submissions made to the Quid shall be reviewed for content. There is a four-step review process.

1) Review by Copy Editor

The Copy Editor assigned to review the article (or an Editor-in-Chief) individually reviews the submission for content they believe to be questionable. Questionable content is content that, in the appreciation of that respective Copy Editor, is either potentially offensive or potentially not suitable for publication. The following factors will be considered when assessing potential offensiveness: the overall tone of the submission, the specific word(s) used, the context in which they are used, coupled with an individual appreciation of the potential reaction to said material by the student body, professors, alumni, and the Montreal legal community. If, on balance, any individual Copy Editor or an Editor-in-Chief believes there is questionable content, this is communicated to the Editors-in-Chief.

Items that are potentially not suitable for publication include but are not limited to: submissions that include hateful rhetoric; submissions that have the potential to create a hostile environment at the faculty; and submissions that are defamatory in nature.

2) Discussion

At the second stage of review, the Editors-in-Chief and Copy Editor who did the initial review discuss their specific findings with one another in relation to the submission. If there is a finding of questionable content that is agreed to by a majority (i.e. at least two-out-of-three between the reviewing editor and the Editors-in-Chief), the article goes for consultation (see below). If there is no agreed finding of questionable content, the article is published as is or with edits at the discretion of the Editors-in-Chief.

3) Consultation

At the Consultation stage, the Editors-in-Chief must advise the author that there is a content concern. The Editors-in-Chief may consult others about the submission, provided there is no information given identifying the author(s). The Editors-in-Chief may consult with any individuals mentioned in the article, fellow students, faculty members, and/or alumni at the discretion of the Editors-in-Chief. Consultation is not a question of how-many-for vs. how-many-against; rather, given the nature and role of the Quid, consultation is premised on whether the specific content is suitable for publication. The author may be consulted numerous times if the Editors-in-Chief feel this is necessary.

4) Decision

The Editors-in-Chief will discuss the results of their consultations and will render a decision to: [a] accept the submission as is; [b] accept the submission with minor edit(s) to be completed by the Editors-in-Chief; [c] accept the submission with or without minor edit(s) and publish a warning along with the submission; [d] return the submission to the author for modification with suggestions provided at the discretion of the Editors-in-Chief, or, alternatively, [e] reject publication without modification suggestions. The decision of the Editors-in-Chief is final and binding. The Editors-in-Chief, at their discretion, may publish a notice of rejection in the Quid with their reasons, indicating, at their discretion, the name(s) of the author(s). Alternatively, the author(s) may request that such a notice appear, in which case the notice will bear the format: AUTHOR -- YEAR -- TITLE OF SUBMISSION was submitted for publication but will not be printed in accordance with the Quid Policy and Operational Guidelines.

6) OVERHEARDS REVIEW POLICY

Overheards at the faculty must be sent to quid.law@mcgill.ca before 5 PM each Thursday to be published in the following edition.

When an Overheard mentions a professor, the Editors-in-Chief shall verify before publication if the professor consents to its publications as-is, to its publication with her name redacted, or does not consent to its publication at all. The Editors-in-Chief shall respect her decision.

Overheards shall identify students only by their year of study (1L, 2L, 3L or 4L).

The Editors-in-Chief shall be responsible for compiling in a single document all the Overheards received by the applicable deadline. This document is thereafter to be treated as a regular submission and shall undergo the content review policy described in section 5, supra.

7) NOTICE AND AMENDMENT PROCESS

The Editors-in-Chief shall publish these guidelines in the Quid in the first issue of every semester. Changes may only be proposed by Quid staff. If there is a proposed change, it will be indicated in the next issue of the Quid with the opportunity for students to make submissions for a period of at least one week. Changes must be approved by a majority of active Quid staff. The Editors-in-Chief must publish notice of any change or change attempt in the Quid.

Politique de publication

Lorsque c'est possible, le Quid publie toutes les contributions qu'il reçoit. Cependant, dans le but de favoriser un climat où chaque étudiant sera confortable d'exprimer ses opinions, les rédacteurs en chef se réservent le droit de modifier des articles ou même, dans des circonstances rares, de les refuser. Ce pouvoir sera exercé à la discrétion des rédacteurs en chef.

Nous présumons que toutes les contributions sont dignes de publication. Néanmoins, des propos potentiellement criminels (i.e. le discours de haine) et des propos diffamatoires ne bénéficient pas de cette présomption. Dans de tels cas, l'auteur doit démontrer de façon probante que les informations contenues dans sa contribution sont véridiques et que les principes de la déontologie journalistique ont été suivis. La décision de publier ces articles relève uniquement des rédacteurs en chef.

POLITIQUES ET PRINCIPES D'OPÉRATION DU QUID NOVI

Le Quid appartient aux étudiants de la Faculté de droit de l'Université McGill. Il est donc essentiel qu'il suive des politiques et principes transparents, qui prennent en considération la valeur de la liberté d'expression ainsi que les intérêts des étudiants et des professeurs. Les politiques et les principes d'opération sont exposés ici-bas. Les questions et commentaires s'y rapportant peuvent être adressés à : quid.law@mcgill.ca. Cette politique est mise à jour à la discrétion des rédacteurs en chef, à la seule condition qu'un préavis de la mise à jour soit publié dans le Quid.

Cette version de la politique s'applique depuis 2014.

Ce document contient sept sections :

1) Principes généraux

2) Politique de contribution et de révocation

3) Politique de contribution anonyme

4) Politique de correction

5) Politique de révision du contenu

6) Politique de révision des overheards

7) Procédures de préavis et d'amendement

1) PRINCIPES GÉNÉRAUX

Chaque item apparaissant dans le Quid Novi est un article d'opinion qui reflète uniquement le point de vue de la personne ou des personnes qui ont écrit l'item. Ni le Quid Novi, ni l'AÉD, ni la Faculté de droit n'endosse les opinions contenues dans les contributions publiées. Étant donné la nature de cette publication et ses ressources limitées, le Quid ne s'engagera pas dans la vérification de la véracité factuelle des contributions.

Les contributions sont présumées dignes de publication, à moins de ne pas se conformer aux principes énumérés ici.

2) POLITIQUE DE CONTRIBUTION ET DE RÉVOCATION

Le Quid est une publication qui survit grâce aux contributions. La date limite pour les contributions apparaîtra dans chaque numéro. Les articles soumis doivent contenir le nom de l'auteur ainsi que son année d'étude. Si l'auteur écrit dans un rôle particulier (i.e. "Président de l'AÉD"; "Président d'un club étudiant"), ceci doit également être indiqué.
Aucun item soumis après la date limite ne sera publié sans le consentement explicite des rédacteurs en chef. Les contributions tardives seront conservées et publiées dans le numéro subséquent.
Les articles soumis pour publication peuvent être révoqués par l'auteur, du moment que cette requête soit faite au moins deux

jours avant la publication du numéro en question. Le Quid fera de son mieux pour faire suite à une requête tardive, mais il n'arrêtera pas la publication d'un numéro qui est déjà en impression.

3) POLITIQUE DE CONTRIBUTION ANONYME

Le Quid publiera des articles anonymes, à la condition que ceux-ci se conforment à ses politiques et principes d'opération. Les articles anonymes présentent un défi particulier pour la révision du contenu, car ils ne permettent pas aux rédacteurs en chef de consulter avec l'auteur. Ainsi, si un article anonyme est refusé, un avis de refus doit être publié dans le Quid.

4) POLITIQUE DE CORRECTION

Chaque item soumis au Quid sera révisé. Le Quid se réserve le droit de faire des modifications grammaticales afin d'améliorer la présentation et la lisibilité d'un article. Les secrétaires de rédaction peuvent également corriger les fautes d'orthographe. Si une contribution nécessite des modifications importantes, dans l'avis de la personne qui le révise, ceci sera indiqué aux rédacteurs en chef. Ceux-ci peuvent refuser de publier l'article ou bien effectuer des modifications importantes pour ensuite le publier. Les modifications mineures ne sont pas nécessairement communiquées à l'auteur avant la publication.

5) POLITIQUE DE RÉVISION DU CONTENU

Toutes les contributions au Quid seront révisées au niveau du contenu. Il existe un processus de révision comportant quatre étapes.

1) Révision par le secrétaire de rédaction

Le ou la secrétaire de rédaction ou le/la rédacteur.trice-en-chef chargé.e de la révision d'un article accomplit cette tâche en vérifiant s'il contient du contenu contestable. Le contenu contestable dénote du contenu que le ou la secrétaire de rédaction en question juge comme potentiellement offensant ou autrement inadéquat pour la publication. Les facteurs suivants seront considérés lors de l'évaluation du potentiel offensant: le ton général de la contribution, les mots précis utilisés dans leur contexte précis, ainsi qu'une appréciation de la réaction potentielle du corps étudiant, des professeurs, des anciens étudiants et de la communauté juridique montréalaise. Si le ou la secrétaire de rédaction individuel estime que le contenu est contestable, il communique ceci aux rédacteurs en chef.

Les items qui sont potentiellement inadéquats pour la publication incluent (sans s'y limiter): les contributions contenant des passages à caractère haineux; les contributions qui possèdent le potentiel de créer un environnement hostile à la faculté; et les contributions à nature diffamatoire.

2) Discussion

À la deuxième étape de la révision, les rédacteurs en chef et le ou la secrétaire de rédaction qui a accompli la révision initiale discutent de leurs conclusions spécifiques vis-à-vis l'article. S'il existe un consensus de contenu contestable parmi une majorité (moins deux sur trois parmi le ou la secrétaire de rédaction et les rédacteurs en chef), l'article procède à l'étape de la consultation. S'il n'existe pas un tel consensus, l'article est publié comme tel ou avec des modifications ou un avertissement aux lecteurs, à la discrétion des rédacteurs en chef.

3) Consultation

Au stade de la consultation, les rédacteurs en chef doivent aviser l'auteur qu'il existe des préoccupations au niveau du contenu. Les rédacteurs en chef peuvent consulter d'autres individus au sujet de la contribution, à la condition de ne fournir aucune information permettant d'identifier l'auteur. Les rédacteurs en chef peuvent consulter avec des individus mentionnés dans l'article, d'autres étudiants, des groupes étudiants, des professeurs ou des anciens étudiants, à leur propre discrétion. La consultation n'est pas un concours de "Combien sont pour vs. Combien sont contre". Compte tenu de la nature et du rôle du Quid, la consultation doit déterminer si le contenu spécifique est digne de publication. L'auteur peut être consulté à de nombreuses reprises si les rédacteurs en chef jugent que ceci est nécessaire.

4) Décision

Les rédacteurs en chef discuteront des résultats de leurs consultations et rendront une décision de: a) accepter la contribution comme telle; b) accepter la contribution avec des modifications mineures portées par eux-mêmes;

c) accepter la contribution avec ou sans modifications mineures et publier un avertissement aux lecteurs avec la contribution; d) retourner la contribution à l'auteur pour modification avec des suggestions portées à la discrétion des rédacteurs en chef; d) rejeter la contribution sans offrir des suggestions. La décision des rédacteurs en chef est finale et incontestable.

Les rédacteurs en chef, à leur discrétion, peuvent publier un avis de refus dans le Quid avec les raisons du refus ainsi que le nom de l'auteur. L'auteur peut également demander qu'un tel avis apparaisse; dans un tel cas, l'avis portera le format suivant: « AUTEUR --- ANNÉE --- TITRE a été soumis pour publication mais ne sera pas imprimé, en accord avec les politiques et principes d'opération du Quid ».

6) POLITIQUE DE RÉVISION DES OVERHEARDS

Les overheards doivent être envoyés à quid.law@mcgill.ca avant 17h00 le jeudi pour être publiés dans le numéro subséquent.

Lorsqu'un overheard mentionne un professeur, les rédacteurs-en-chef doivent vérifier auprès de lui ou d'elle s'il y a consentement pour publier l'overheard tel quel, pour le publier sans le nom du professeur, ou si le professeur ne consent pas à la publication. Les rédacteurs en chef sont tenus de respecter cette décision.

Les overheards doivent identifier les étudiants uniquement par leur année d'étude (1L, 2L, 3L ou 4L).

Les rédacteurs en chef sont responsables de compiler dans un document unique tous les overheards reçus avant l'échéance applicable. Ce document doit par la suite être traité comme une contribution régulière et doit être soumis à la politique de révision du contenu décrite à la section 5, supra.

7) POLITIQUE DE PRÉAVIS ET D'AMENDEMENT

Les rédacteurs en chef publieront ces principes dans le premier numéro du Quid à chaque semestre. Des amendements peuvent être proposés uniquement par le personnel du Quid. Si un amendement est proposé, il sera indiqué dans le numéro subséquent du Quid afin d'offrir une opportunité d'au moins une semaine aux étudiants de rédiger des contributions. Les amendements doivent être approuvés par une majorité du personnel actif du Quid. Les rédacteurs en chef doivent publier un avis de tout changement ou de toute tentative de changement dans le Quid.

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Special thanks to Prairie Koo for designing the layout.

~

The Quid Novi is published weekly by the students of the Faculty of Law at McGill University. Production is made possible through the direct support of students.
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Envoyez vos commentaires ou articles avant jeudi 17h00 à quid.law@mcgill.ca.
Toute contribution doit indiquer le nom de l'auteur, son année d'étude ainsi qu'un titre et un sous -titre pour l'article. Les images doivent être soumises séparément. L'article ne sera publié qu'à la discrétion du comité de rédaction, qui basera sa décision sur la politique de rédaction disponible sur notre Facebook @quidnovi.mcgill.